CLAIMS

1. A method for enabling registration of a user to use a computer system, the method including:

providing a printed registration form containing information relating to user registration, the form including coded data indicative of an identity of the form and of at least one reference point of the form;

receiving, in a processing system associated with the computer system, indicating data from a sensing device regarding the identity of the form and a position of the sensing device relative to the form, the sensing device, when placed in an operative position relative to the form, generating the indicating data using at least some of the coded data on the form; and

identifying, in the processing system and from the indicating data, at least one parameter relating to user registration, and storing the at least one parameter so as to be accessible by said computer system.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein said at least one parameter relating to the user registration is associated with at least one zone of the form, and wherein the method includes identifying, in the processing system and from the zone relative to which the sensing device is located, said at least one parameter.

3. The method of claim 2, wherein the indicating data includes time varying position information regarding movement of the sensing device relative to the form which is generated by the sensing device during operation thereof using at least some of the coded data, and wherein the method includes identifying, in the processing system and from the movement information of the sensing device at least partially within said at least one zone, said at least one parameter.

4. The method of claim 3, in which the at least one parameter is a text parameter

of the user registration, the method including identifying, in the processing system, that said movement information of the sensing device represents an action of entering handwritten text data by means of the sensing device and effecting, in the processing system, an operation associated with the text parameter.

5. The method of claim 4 including converting, in the processing system, the identified handwritten text data into computer text.

6. The method of claim 4 or 5, wherein the at least one text parameter comprises registration data identifying said user.

7. The method of claim 6, wherein the registration data includes identification and contact details associated with said user.

8. The method of claim 3, in which the parameter is a user authorisation parameter, the method including identifying, in the processing system, that the user has entered a handwritten signature by means of the sensing device and storing data identifying the handwritten signature so as to be accessible by the computer system.

9. The method of claim 1, which includes printing the registration form on demand.

10. The method of claim 9 which includes printing the form on a surface-defining means and, at the same time that the form is printed, printing the coded data on the surface.

11. The method of claim 10, which includes printing the coded data to be at least substantially invisible in the visible spectrum.

12. The method of claim 1, wherein the sensing device contains an identification means which imparts a unique identity to the sensing device, the method including storing the identity of the sensing device in association with the at least one parameter relating to user registration.

13. A system for enabling registration of a user to use a computer system, the system including:

a printed registration form containing information relating to user registration, the form including coded data indicative of an identity of the form and of at least one reference point of the form;

a processing system associated with the computer system, for receiving indicating data from a sensing device for identifying at least one parameter relating to user registration. the indicating data being indicative of the identity of the form and a position of the sensing device relative to the form, the sensing device generating the indicating data using at least some of the coded data on the form; and

data storage for storing the at least one parameter so as to be accessible by said computer system.

14. The system of claim 13, wherein said at least one parameter relating to the user registration is associated with at least one zone of the form.

15. The system of claim 14 which includes the sensing device, wherein the sensing device is operative to sense its movement relative to the form using at least some of the coded data.

16. The system of claim 15 wherein the sensing device includes a marking nib.

17. The system of claim 15 wherein the sensing device includes and identification means which imparts a unique identity to the sensing device and wherein the identity of the sensing device is conveyed to the processing system and associated with said at least one parameter in said storage.

18. The system of claim 15 wherein the form includes at least one text zone, and wherein the processing system is adapted to interpret the indicating data representing movement of the sensing device in the at least one text zone of the form as handwritten text.

19. The system of claim 18, wherein the processing system is adapted to convert said handwritten text into computer text data comprising said at least one parameter relating to user registration.

20. The system of claim 15 or 19, wherein the at least one parameter relating to user registration includes information selected from the group of:

identification information for the user;

address information for the user;

telephone details for the user; and

privacy preferences for the user.

21. The system of claim 13, including a printer for printing the registration form on demand.

22. The system of claim 21 in which the information relating to user registration is printed on the form by the printer at the same time as the coded data.

23. The system of claim 13, in which the coded data is at least substantially

invisible in the visible spectrum.

24. A method for user registration of a computer system, the method including the steps of:

providing a printed document registration form including registration information and coded data thereon, the coded data including an indication of an identity of the form and at least one reference point on the form;

receiving in the computer system indicating data from a sensing device, the indicating data including information regarding an identity of the sensing device, the identity of the form and at least one action of the sensing device in relation to the form generated by the sensing device using at least some of the coded data;

deriving, from the indicating data regarding at least one action of the sensing device in relation to the form, an identity of a user to be registered; and

storing, in the computer system, registration data for the user including the identity of the user associated with the identity of the sensing device.

25. The method of claim 24, wherein the at least one action of the sensing device in relation to the form includes the formation of handwritten text and/or markings on the form.

26. The method of claim 25, wherein the indicating data regarding the formation of handwritten text and/or markings on the form is used to derive the identity of the user and contact details for the user to be registered.

27. The method of claim 24, including receiving in the computer system authorising data from a second sensing device, the authorising data including information regarding the identity of the second sensing device, the identity of the form and at least one action of the second sensing device in relation to the form generated by the second sensing device using at least some of the coded data, the second sensing device being associated

in the computer system with a second user authorised to permit user registrations.

28. The method of claim 24, wherein the form is printed on demand on the surface of a sheet material including printing said coded data thereon.

29. The method of claim 28, including printing the coded data to be at least substantially invisible in the visible spectrum.

30. A system for user registration of a computer system, the system including:

a printed document registration form including registration information and coded data thereon, the coded data including an indication of an identity of the form and at least one reference point on the form;

a computer system adapted to receive indicating data from a sensing device, the indicating data including information regarding an identity of the sensing device, the identity of the form and at least one action of the sensing device in relation to the form generated by the sensing device using at least some of the coded data, the computer system including:

a processing means for deriving, from the indicating data regarding at least one action of the sensing device in relation to the form, an identity of a user to be registered; and

data storage for storing registration data for the user including the identity of the user associated with the identity of the sensing device.

31. The system of claim 30, wherein the at least one action of the sensing device in relation to the form includes the formation of handwritten text and/or markings on the form.

32. The system of claim 30, including the sensing device which includes an identification means that imparts a unique identity to the sensing device.

33. The system of claim 30, including a printer for printing on demand, including said coded data, the form on the surface of a sheet material.

34. The method of claim 33, wherein the coded data is printed on the form so as to be at least substantially invisible in the visible spectrum.